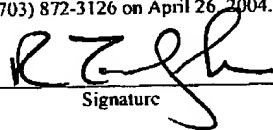


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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

van Smirren et al.

Serial No.: 09/912,454

Filed: July 24, 2001

Invention: System and Method for Measuring  
Deep Sea Currents§  
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Group No.: 2863

Examiner: Toan M. Le

## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED NOVEMBER 25, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Office Action mailed November 25, 2003, Applicants submit this response and respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's objections and rejections.

Petition for Extension of Time

Applicants petition for a two-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 up to and including April 26, 2004. Applicants note that April 25, 2004 was a Sunday and that April 26, 2004 is the first business day following April 25, 2004. Applicants hereby authorize and instruct the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge Deposit Account No. 02-0383

HOU03:968813.1

(matter 019929.0144) of Baker Botts L.L.P. in the amount of \$420.00 for the filing of this response.

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Please direct this facsimile to patent examiner Toan M. Le in Art Unit 2863. This facsimile concerns the following patent application

Serial No. 09/912,454  
Applicant: van Smirren et al.  
Filed: July 24, 2001  
Invention: System and Method for Measuring Deep Sea Currents**Notice of Confidentiality**

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